



By the King.

A Proclamation prohibiting the Exportation of Sheepe,
Woolles, Wool-fells, and Fullers Earth.



S the providence of Almighty God, hath placed Our Kingdomes of Great Britaine and Ireland, as **I**lands in the Ocean, and thereby in respect of their naturall situation, fit to abound and flourish in Navigation and Trade; So the same Divine providence hath endowed, both Our Land and Seas, with those commodities of wooll and fish, which are the Adamants that draw and governe all other Trade and Merchandizing: wherefore, since it is Our Royall care to cherish and second the benefits of God, in that which may concerne the strength and wealth of Our Kingdomes, and that the woolls are a principall dowry of them, especially being turned into Cloth, whereby Our loving Subjects have the benefit, as wel of the Manufacture as of the Materiall: And whereas we are given to vnderstand, that there are great quantities of Our woolls exported out of Our Realmes of England, wales and Ireland, to the great prejudice of Our people, and the manifest breach and contempt of diuers good and wholesome Lawes in that case provided: we doe therefore by these presents, straitly charge and command all Our loving Subjects of any of Our Kingdomes or Dominions of England, wales and Ireland, and Our Isles of the Wight, Bernesey, and Jersey, as well Merchants of the Staple as others, and likewise all Merchant-strangers whatsoever, that hencefoorth there be no maner of woolls, or wooll-fells by them, or any of them exported out of any of Our said Kingdomes, Isles, and Dominions, either into foraine parts, or out of any one of Our said Kingdomes, Isles and Dominions, into any other of the same, or into Our Realme of Scotland, vpon paine of confiscation of the same woolls, and wooll-fells, and all other paines and penalties, which by the Lawes and Statutes of Our Kingdomes, and by our prerogative Royall, in respect of the contempt and breach of Our Commandement, may be inflicted vpon them: And we doe hereby also reuoke and disanull all Charters, Licences, powers and Authorities, which haue bene given, or may be pretended for the exporting of any woolls, be they course or fine, or of whatsoever natures, out of any of Our said Kingdomes, Isles, or Dominions: And wee doe likewise straitly charge and command all Our Customers, Comptrollers, Collectors, Searchers, and all other Our Officers at the Ports, and all and euery the Fermers of Our Customes, and their Deputies, ministers and waiters, not to permit any woolls, or wooll-fells, to passe out of any Our said Kingdomes and

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Dominiions of England, waies and Ireland, or out of our said Iles of the wight, Bernesey, and Jersey: neither vnder colour of Cariage from Port to Port, nor otherwise openly or priuily, but to take order, and to vse all care and diligence for the stay and seizure of the same, vpon paine of losse of their places and other such punishment, as shalbe iust and meet.

And we doe further command and authorize all, and euery our Iustices of Peace, and all Maiors, and principall Officers of our Cities and Townes, that where they shall be informed of any great and extraordinary quantitie of wooles, and wool fells, to be gathered or bestowed in any Barnes, Storehouses, or other places of receipt neere the Seacoast, and out of the suruey and view of the Officers of our Ports, whereby it may be presumed and suspected, that they are intended to be transported by stealth, that in euery such case, they arrest all such wooles, and wool-fells: and take order by Bond, or otherwise for their stay and safe keeping, vntill they haue certified our Prīuie Counsell, and receaued order from them concerning the same. And we further command and require the Barons of our Exchequer, and our Attorney Generall: that where there shall be any information prosecuted vpon any penall Law, concerning the exporting of wooles, or wool-fells, that they doe not giue any license of composition for the same, but that the same be prosecuted with effect, and the penalties recovered duely and straitly leuied.

And whereas it is ordered by an Act made in the eight yeere of our late deere Sister Queene Elizabeth, that no maner of Rams, Sheepe, or Lambes, be carried out of this our Realme of England, waies, or Ireland, vpon paine of forfeiture of all the offenders goods, the imprisonment of one whole yeere, and the losse of the offenders left hand for the first offence; and vpon paine of felony for the second: By the seuerity of which Law it appeareth what care was taken that our said Kingdome should not suffer disinherison of that principall commodity, esteeming the offence no better then a robbrie of the publicke Treasure: we doe therefore charge and command all our Judges, Iustices, Officers, and Ministers whatsoeuer, to whom it may appertaine, that they and euery of them, cause the said Statute from henceforth, duely and seuerely to be put in execution. And we doe also charge and command all and euery our louing Subjects, and all Marchant-Strangers, or others whatsoeuer: that there be no Fullers earth exported out of any our said Kingdomes or Dominions, vpon paine of confiscation of the same, and such other punishment, as by Law or our Prerogative Royall, shall be meete to be inflicted vpon the offenders therein; Giuing also like charge and commandement, to all persons to whom it may appertaine, that they doe duely obserue and assist the obseruation of this our Proclamation concerning the same.

Giuen at Hampton Court the 26. of September, in the twelfth yeere of our Raigne of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland. 1614.

God saue the King.

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